

## **REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated March 31, 2004, the Office has indicated that claims 14-24 are allowable over the art of record. Still further, the Office indicated that claims 10-12, 25, 35, 48, 53 and 54 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if amended to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In connection with the Office Action, the Examiner's reasons for allowance over the prior art of record found in paragraph 9 indicates that with respect to these earlier claims, the Examiner indicates that the prior art does not teach or suggest analyzing the historical billing data that has met tolerance values and then permit the user to act on the same information or data. The Office indicates that claims 15-20 are allowable for the same reason.

In view of the holding of the Office as to allowable subject matter, claims 1-35 have been amended variously to incorporate what has been deemed allowable subject matter in order to place these claims in condition for allowance.

With respect to the objections raised by the Office in the Specification, as set forth in the most recent Office Action, Applicant's counsel has carefully reviewed the Specification and has amended the Specification consistent with the objections raised in the most recent Office Action.

Yet further, with respect to the objections to the drawings as set forth in paragraphs 2.1 through paragraph 4 of the Office Action, these several objections have been addressed by means of the replacement pages including the annotated pages attached hereto and made a part hereof.

In view of the foregoing, it would appear that this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt Notice of Allowance of claims 1-35 is requested in the Office's next action.

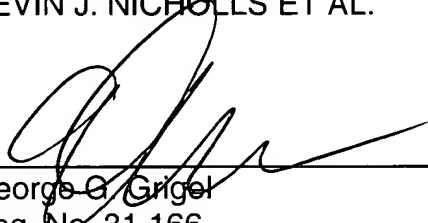
Applicant, by and through their counsel, would request that the Office telephone the attorneys in the event that a further telephone conference could expedite the prompt handling of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

KEVIN J. NICHOLS ET AL.

Dated: June 30, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Reg. No. 31,166